

LXII.—*A new Free-tailed Bat from Central America.*

By GERRIT S. MILLER, Jr.

A SPECIES of free-tailed bat represented by two skins from Chiriqui, submitted to me for determination by Mr. Oldfield Thomas, is strikingly distinct from any hitherto known. In size and external appearance it suggests a small "*Nyctinomus*" of the *gracilis-europis* group; but its skull and teeth show it to be a *Promops* related, notwithstanding its small size, to *P. glaucinus*.

*Promops nanus*, sp. n.

*Type* (in British Museum \*).—Adult male (skin and skull), no. 56 collection of H. J. Watson, taken at Bogava, Chiriqui, Panama (alt. 250 m.), October 7, 1898. "Caught under the roof of a house."

*Character*.—Essentially a miniature of *Promops glaucinus*; forearm about 39 millim. instead of 56 millim., greatest length of skull 16.5 millim. instead of 22 millim.

*Muzzle and lips*.—So far as can be determined from the dried specimens, after relaxation of the parts, the lips are slightly less wrinkled than in *P. glaucinus*, and the pointed horny projections on the ridge above and between nostrils are even smaller and less distinct.

*Ears*.—The ears are of the same form as in *P. glaucinus*; laid forward they extend about 2 millim. beyond tip of muzzle; their inner borders arise together on forehead, about 5 millim. behind tip of muzzle. In outline the conch is irregularly squarish, the anterior and superior borders about equal in length, the posterior much shorter, the corners bluntly rounded. Antitragus about two thirds as high as wide, its anterior and posterior borders converging regularly toward the bluntly rounded tip, the width of which is a little less than half that of base. Keel well developed, its edge very noticeably thickened. Tragus minute, scarcely more than 1 millim. in length, its highest point at extremity of posterior margin.

*Feet and membranes*.—The feet and membranes present no characters of importance. Wing attached at distal extremity of tibiæ.

*Fur and colour*.—The fur is not peculiar either in quality or distribution. On middle of back it is about 5.5 millim. in length. General colour above dark bistre, very faintly washed

\* [Now registered as no. 0. 7. 11. 99.—O. T.]

with eceru-drab. The drab is only visible in certain lights. Underparts broccoli-brown, strongly washed with eceru-drab. Throughout the body the hairs are whitish smoke-grey at base.

*Skull*.—Notwithstanding its size, less than that of *Nyctinomus europæus* or *N. brasiliensis*, the skull of *Promops nanus* closely resembles that of *P. glaucinus*. The brain-case is relatively larger and less angular, and the basisphenoid pits are actually larger. Bony palate entire anteriorly.

*Teeth*.—The teeth throughout are similar to those of *Promops glaucinus*, except that the upper incisors do not quite come in contact with the canines and the posterior molar, both above and below, is relatively larger and better developed. The third upper molar contains a small but distinct metacone, a cusp that is lacking in the corresponding tooth of *Promops glaucinus*. Similarly, the third lower molar is provided with an entaconid of considerably greater relative size than that of the corresponding tooth in the larger species. Hypocone of first and second upper molars as in *Promops glaucinus*.

*Measurements*.—External measurements of type: head and body 41 mm.\*; tail 34\*; tail (free) 15; tibiæ 11; foot 7·8 (6·6); forearm 38; thumb 5·5; second digit 38; third digit 75; fourth digit 58; fifth digit 37. The other specimen (a female) is slightly larger; forearm 39·5.

Cranial measurements of type: greatest length 16·4 mm.; basal length 15; basilar length 13; median palatal length 6; zygomatic breadth 9·8; least interorbital breadth 3·6; mastoid breadth 9; greatest breadth of brain-case above roots of zygomata 8; lachrymal breadth 5; mandible 11·6; maxillary tooth-row (exclusive of incisor) 6·4; mandibular tooth-row (exclusive of incisors) 6·8.

LXIII.—*Natural History Notes from the Royal Indian Marine Survey Ship 'Investigator,' Commander T. H. Heming, R.N., commanding.*—Series III., No. 4. *Some Results of the Dredging Season 1899-1900.* By A. F. MCARDLE, B.A., M.B., Capt. I.M.S., Surgeon-Naturalist to the Survey.

DURING the season 1899-1900 the R.I.M.S. 'Investigator' was for the greater part of the time without the services of a Surgeon-Naturalist. At the beginning of April 1900 I joined

\* Collector's measurement.